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Docket No.

251305/0028

SBP:MCD:AEW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: **David Zhang, et al.**

Group Art Unit: **1634**

Application No.: **09/978,261**

Examiner: **Frank Lu**

Filed: **October 15, 2001**

For: **NUCLEIC ACID AMPLIFICATION METHODS**

Date: December 1, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO JUNE 3, 2004 OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Applicants respectfully submit this response to the Office Action of the United States Patent and Trademark Office mailed on June 3, 2004. A response to the Office Action was due on September 3, 2004. By this response and payment of the required fee of \$490.00, Applicants respectfully request a three (3) month extension of time. Therefore, the response is now due on December 3, 2004. Accordingly, this Response is timely filed. Applicants respectfully request consideration and entry of the following revisions and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.